

IN THE SPECIFICATION

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 10 on page 3 and ending on line 19 on page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Figure 1 depicts a piston ring 1, which can be installed into the first or second groove of a piston (not represented). Piston ring 1 is depicted in top view, so that only friction surface 2, the inner surface 3, as well as the upper flank 4 are recognizable. In the piston ring gap 5 the piston ring 1 exhibits a predeterminable wall thickness. The wall thickness  $t$  of the piston ring 1 varies, based on the gap 5 in the direction of the surface diametrically opposite 6 ( $180^\circ$ ) comprising the rear of the ring. At the rear of the ring 6, a wall thickness is given, which is thicker than the opposite side by the ring gap material cross-section. Figure 1 depicts the area near the upper flank 4 with a cross-section cut 7 in the inner surface 3 in the form of a bevel. This bevel 7 begins with an equally large cross-section at the gap 5 and is reduced to the rear ring 6 equally in both directions of the surface. By means of this procedure the piston ring 1 maintains a constant twist angle, that is remaining consistent, over the surface.